335 given in the Rajya Sabha onl 13-12-1991 and to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instructions have been issued to schools in all the States and U.Ts. for singing of National Song and National Anthem;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of schools where these instructions are not followed; and whether there are instructions to stop Government aid and grants to such schools; and

(c) the details of policy and response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Orders regarding community singing of National Anthem in all schools of the country have been issued from time to time. Most recently, in October 1991, the Minister of Human Resource Development, addressed all the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors to issue necessary directives for singing of National Anthem in Schools, However, no instructions have been issued regarding singing of National Song.

No specific reports regarding non-implementation of the Oct.' 91 instructions relating to National Anthem have been received so far from any State/ Union Territory.

The policy of the Government on the singing of National Anthem has been that there should be community singing of the National Anthem in all schools every day.

Expenditure in foreign currency

4183. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council of Historical Research usually does not take permission from the Reserve Bank of India for expenditure to be made in foreign currency;

(b) if so, the steps taken and proposed to be taken to keep a check on avoidable expenditure; and

(c) the names and designations of the persons permitted to spend foreign) exchange during each year of the Seventh Plan period with amounts?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Indian Council of Historical Research, the Council sanctions maintenance grant to scholars in Indian currency to undertake research abroad. Scholars, who are sanctioned such grants, have themselves to apply to the Reserve Bank of India for foreign exchange under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

(c) Information regarding scholars who have availed of financial assistance from the Council for visit abroad during the 7th Plan period is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Project "Towards Freedom"

4184. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indian Council of Historical Research started the project "Towards Freedom" and the total amount spent so far and whether the project is likely to be completed by the end of 1992; and

(b) whether Government propose to wind up the project to stop further wastage?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The project 'Towards Freedom" was taken up by the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) on 20th August, 1973. So far,

the amount released to the ICHR and the National Archives of India is Rs. 198.00 lakhs. The ICHR expects to cons-ble the project by December, 1992.

(b) Government funding of the Project will cease from the end of March 1992; the remaining work will be completed by the ICHR on its own.

Sahitya Academy Award for URDU

4185. DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVE-LOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is resentment amongst Urdu Writers on the manner in which selection of Urdu novel for Sahitya Academy Award has been done;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the selection was made; and

(c) Government's reaction, thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The Sahitya Academy, an autonomous organisation, have stated that opinions on literary matters differ and that there are reports in the newspapers, both in favour and against the Urdu Award.

(b) The Sahitya Academy Awards are declared following the rules and procedure governing the Sahitya Academy Awards. The procedure is outlined in the Statement. (See below)

(c) The Government does not interfere in the selection procedures of the Sahitya Academy for its Awards as it is an auto-nomous organisation.

Statement

The procedure followed for selecting a book for the Sahitya Academy Award is as follows:

An expert is requested to prepare a ground list of books published during the proceeding three years that are worthy of consideration. The Literary Associations recognised in the language are also re-quested to furnish a ground list of books published during the period. In the first round, the ground lists received are collated and sent to 25 advisers in the Preliminary Panel for recommending five books each from the ground list or of their own. In the second round recommendations received from these advisers are collated and referred back to the same advisers in the preliminary Panel with the request to recommend only one title each now. Copies of the books are procured as per the recommendations made by the preliminary Panel advisers and are sent to the three readers in the final panel (including the Convener) for reading them and giving their order of pre-ferences to each book. The order of pre-ferences received from the three final panel readers are placed before the Executive Board of the Akademi which declares the Award after considering the same.

Review of Literacy Mission in Uttar Pradesh

4186. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALA-VIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review of the work done and grant given under Literacy Mission to Uttar Pradesh has been conducted; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard separately?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Review and evaluation constitute integral part of Programme Implementation under National Literacy Mission!. This has been done in case of Uttar Pradesh as in the case of other States and Union Territories from time to time.

(b) Two comprehensive reviews were undertaken at the level of Director General, National Literacy Mission on 6th September, 1988 and 9-11 September, 1989 respectively. These reviews covered all aspects of Programme implementation including the magnitude of the problem of illiteracy and achievements under the programme. Similarly, the Director General, National Literacy Mission reviewed the